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\*Admitted only in Maryland  
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•Practice limited to  
Federal Agencies

May 16, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Art Unit 2812**

Re: U.S. Patent Application  
Application No. 10/677,242; Filed: October 3, 2003  
For: **Methods and Systems for Total Focus Deviation Adjustments on  
Maskless Lithography Systems**  
Inventor: Peter Kochersperger  
Our Ref: 1857.2060000

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages), listing 29 documents, enclosing 3; and
3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
May 16, 2005  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

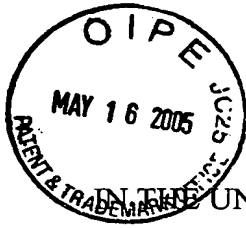
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle K. Holoubek". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Holoubek".

Michelle K. Holoubek  
Agent for Applicant  
Registration No. 54,179

MKH/jmh

398543-1



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Peter Kochersperger

Appl. No.: 10/677,242

Filed: October 3, 2003

Confirmation No.: 9116

Art Unit: 2812

Examiner: Andre C. Stevenson

Atty. Docket: 1857.2060000

**For: Methods and Systems for Total  
Focus Deviation Adjustments on  
Maskless Lithography Systems**

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicant has checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

- ☒ 7. Copies of documents AL1-AN are submitted. However, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), no copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are submitted.
- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☐ 9. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the parent application no(s). \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Michelle K. Holoubek  
Agent for Applicant  
Registration No. 54,179

Date: May 16, 2005

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398534





FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.  
1857.2060000APPLICATION NO.  
10/677,242INVENTORS  
Peter KocherspergerFILING DATE  
October 3, 2003ART UNIT  
2812**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	5,229,872	07/1993	Mumola			
	AB1	5,296,891	03/1994	Vogt <i>et al.</i>			
	AC1	5,500,736	03/1996	Koitabashi <i>et al.</i>			
	AD1	5,523,193	06/1996	Nelson			
	AE1	5,530,482	06/1996	Gove <i>et al.</i>			
	AF1	5,579,147	11/1996	Mori <i>et al.</i>			
	AG1	5,677,703	10/1997	Bhuva <i>et al.</i>			
	AH1	5,808,797	09/1998	Bloom <i>et al.</i>			
	AI1	5,982,553	11/1999	Bloom <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ1	6,133,986	10/2000	Johnson			
	AK1	6,177,980 B1	01/2001	Johnson			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL1	WO 98/33096	07/1998	WIPO			N/A
	AM1	WO 98/38597	09/1998	WIPO			N/A
	AN1	EP 1 139 176	10/04/2001	Europe			Yes No
	AO1						Yes No

**OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

	AP1	
	AQ1	
	AR1	
	AS1	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

FORM PTO-1449

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
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October 3, 2003ART UNIT  
2812

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA2	6,687,041 B1	02/2004	Sandstrom			
	AB2	6,747,783 B1	06/2004	Sandstrom			
	AC2	6,795,169 B2	09/2004	Tanaka <i>et al.</i>			
	AD2	6,806,897 B2	10/2004	Kataoka <i>et al.</i>			
	AE2	6,811,953 B2	11/2004	Hatada <i>et al.</i>			
	AF2	2004/0041104 A1	03/2004	Liebregts <i>et al.</i>			
	AG2	2004/0130561 A1	07/2004	Jain			
	AH2	2005/0007572 A1	01/2005	George <i>et al.</i>			
	AI2	6,509,955	01/2003	Mei <i>et al.</i>			
	AJ2	6,379,867	04/2002	Mei <i>et al.</i>			
	AK2	2003/0210383	11/13/2003	Jain Kanti <i>et al.</i>			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL2						Yes No
	AM2						Yes No
	AN2						Yes No
	AO2						Yes No

## OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	AP2	
	AQ2	
	AR2	
	AS2	

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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October 3, 2003ART UNIT  
2812**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA3	6,229,871	05/08/2001	Daniel A. Tichenor			
	AB3	6,617,082	09/09/2003	John Hutchinson			
	AC3	6,433,917	08/13/2002	Chan Kin Foong et al.			
	AD3	6,356,340	03/12/2002	Christopher A. Spence			
	AE3						
	AF3						
	AG3						
	AH3						
	AI3						
	AJ3						
	AK3						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL3						Yes No
	AM3						Yes No
	AN3						Yes No
	AO3						Yes No

**OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

	AP3	
	AQ3	
	AR3	
	AS3	

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